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The Minutes.

We're little things on little wings,
And fast we fly away,
In one short hour we wield our power,
And then are gone for aye.
We're little thing on little wings,
And often we're abused,
But there's a day when we must stay
If good or ill we're used.
We're little things on little wings.
And swift we take our flight,
So treat us well that we may tell
Who uses us aright. —Sel.

From Lanark, Ill.

The week of prayer is over; the time for prayer is ever. The union services were very enjoyable, and there was but little to mar our pleasure. We hope, too, that these meetings were edifying, and that they strengthened our desire for the time when all sectarian differences shall be removed and we shall see eye to eye. The nearer we all come to Christ the nearer will we come to each other; and when we all come to the gospel of Christ, we will be one body. Until that time comes, there will be walls between us; walls built by human weakness in the form of creeds and disciplines to direct the worshipers in their devotions and in the government of the churches. But whilst these walls exist, it is well to unite in worship as far as we can agree; and to exercise forbearance in things wherein we differ. If this could be done judiciously, these walls would soon begin to crumble, and would rapidly disappear. In this movement for the union of all Christians, we should lead, because we have the only creed upon which a union is possible.

After the week of prayer we had a week of preaching, which closed last night. The attendance was not very large, but there was good attention, and I am persuaded, a fair interest; but as there were several other meetings in progress in town, we decided to close for the present. We intend to try again when the surroundings seem more favorable.

During our meeting Bro. J. H. Burnworth, of Kansas, came among us, a very acceptable visitor. He preached for us two evenings, to our edification and comfort. I was truly glad to meet him, to form his acquaintance, to worship with him, and to find such a devoted and brotherly brother. He is on his way eastward to Somerset Co., Pa., to visit the home of his childhood and his sister, Mrs. Critchfield, wife of Prof. Critchfield. He is now visiting in the vicinity of Dutchtown, where he once lived. May he have a pleasant journey and visit. I am glad to learn that, after his return to Kansas, he is to be the pastor of the Pony Creek church; and I hope that he may accomplish much good.

Bro. Z. T. Livengood also attended several of our meetings, and took an active part; and I was much pleased to find him so full of love and zeal for the Master's cause. He would be a good evangelist.

I was pleased with Bro. Shanks' interesting correspondence from Altamont, Cal., and I hope that he may soon recover from his sprained shoulder. It does me much good to see that the work is moving along so harmoniously among the foothills of the Coast Mountains. The little flock at Altamont deserves to have a pleasant and prosperous time, and I believe that it will have it. God who notices the falling sparrow, will not fail to notice their devotion and to bless their zeal. Let us hear from you often, Bro. Shanks. I will be waiting to hear that the Altamont church is seated and completed. I should also be glad to see something in the EVANGELIST, occasionally or more frequently, from all the different points on the Pacific coast. Although I am now in Ill., I think much of the work in California and Oregon, and am always pleased to hear from there.

I am very anxious to hear from all parts of Illinois. It must be that in this State there are many who are ready to take their stand with the Brethren on the gospel alone platform, and I would like to hear from them either through the paper or by letter. We must work, and work together, if we would win.

J. W. BEER.

Jan. 17th, 1887.

South Bend, Ind.

Jan. 17.—Several weeks since, the Brethren of Clinton Co., Ind., wrote me to come to their assistance and conduct a series of meetings for them. Not seeing my way clear as regarded time, I wrote them and declined their kind invitation. But they determined not thus to be declined and they dispatched a message in the person of Wm. Cripe, to Sweet Home, Ind., to ascertain the cause. When we heard the arguments of Bro. Cripe, we at once consented to go.

We arrived safely at Moran, and were there met by Bro. Samuel Latshaw, who conducted us to his place of residence.

Next morning, at 10:30, we wended our way to the church house near Cambria, and were met by a number of the brethren who gave us kind and encouraging words.

We at once began work. Satan retreated and a complete victory was won in favor of the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ. Two made the good confession and came out on the Lord's side.

But at this place Satan outflanked us and succeeded in getting the church house locked against us.

We next opened out at Spring Mills, and had quite an enjoyable meeting of ten days duration. Five were baptized at that place, and one who came forward just as we were taking our leave of the brethren at that place, is yet unbaptized.

We next went to Edna Mills. Here the brethren worship in a Union house with the German Baptists, and they, having learned that we were contemplating a series of meetings, of course wanted the church house and we had to succumb.

I then returned home to await the close of the German Baptist meetings. But a telegram soon called me back to the surprise of the German Baptists.

We held a two weeks' meeting at this place and had good success, considering the inclemencies of the weather. We, that is the brethren and sisters, learning they were not organized according to the laws of the State of Ind., they met in council on the 8th day, January, 1887, and organized a class consisting of one hundred and fourteen members, of which John A. Miller and Adison Michaels were chosen to the ministry. They are both teachers at present and are very promising young men. Both propose to start to the Ashland College in the near future for aggressive work in the ministry. Philip Hufford, Henry Nehr, and Wm. Cripe, were chosen Trustees. Samuel Latshaw, Treasurer; John A. Miller, Clerk. They also made choice of the writer as their Elder, to serve them for one year from date. Bro. Swihart, their former elder having resigned. They also decided to build a new church house, 32x56. 18ft. walls, to be arched to the height of 24 ft. in center of ceiling; a cupola to extend heavenward and to correspond with the size and finish of the house, to show forth to the world that these people mean to worship God in the beauty of holiness.

I visited while there, Philip Hufford, with whom I have been acquainted for thirty years or more, and found him as full of zeal and energy for the cause of Christ as he used to be in the Hocking hills of Ohio. I also visited at Bro. David Hufford's, whose wife, Susanah Hufford, was a schoolmate of mine in years gone by. We spent several days very pleasantly together, talking over the past of our lives.

I had my home while in Clinton, at J. B. Metzger's. J. B. has a whole heart within himself; and he together with his good wife and family have my thanks for kindness shown me while with them. I also visited many others about whom time and space forbid me to write.

I will say in conclusion that the future outlook for the church in Clinton is good, and with such men as the Huffords, Metzgers, and Cripe, Latshaws, Nehrs, and many others at the helm, and Christ and his cause for their object of life, they will move on.

While I was with the brethren at Clinton, I preached 35 revival sermons, 3 funeral sermons, baptized 5 converts, one came over from the G. B's, and 3 are not yet baptized; 9 in all.

I am now at home with the brethren at Sweet Home, and will make up my list for the EVANGELIST next. Love to all.

J. M. RITTGERS.

South Bend, Ind.

From Northern Ind.

On New Years day Bro. J. A. Ridenour came to us and wielded the gospel hammer for the space of two weeks, closing last night. Our audience room is thirty by fifty and it was literally packed with quiet listeners. We can truly say, while we did not expect a large ingathering of members, we had a successful meeting. Our spirits were renewed and two more precious souls were added to our fold; one brother who is about seventy years old and second cousin of mine. He has been proving all kinds of doctrins and finally settled down to make his home with the Brethren. Our meeting might have been more successful had it not have been for other meetings, one on each side of us at the same time. Then the weather was desperately cold too.

Our esteemed Bro. Ridenour, visited over the congregation considerable and gave a great deal of good advice which was very edifying and encouraging to us. We wish him God speed and hope he may be permitted to meet with us many more times during life and finally may we all meet together in that heaven above where parting will be known no more.

On last Saturday evening, Bro. Holsinger and sister Holsinger, sister Ewing, Kline and some others came to visit us from the South Bend City Church. Bro. Holsinger took part behind the sacred desk with Bro. Ridenour, and the sisters assisted in singing. We were glad to see them, as we had never seen sister H., until then, she having recently moved here from Pennsylvania. Brethren and sisters come again.

Bro: Rittgers has been to Edna Mills, Ind. Just got home in time to see our protracted meeting close. He is called away from us a great deal of the time helping those around us, who are in need of a minister. Bro. Ridenour goes from here to Flora, this State to join brother Mallott in a protracted meeting there. From there he goes to Auburn, Ill. Bro. Ridenour took quite a list of names here for the EVANGELIST and Investigator.

We will wait patiently for the Investigator to see what it is like. I want all the church papers, and I am going to send for Jesse Calvert's progressive paper too, soon. I think there is nothing like church literature.

I am looking forward for something interesting from the masterly pens of the Brethren. Hope all may be for the glory of God and his cause. I would ask, where is Worst? Hope to see him to the front soon. We ask an interest in the prayers of all God's children.

F. H. FRAME.

Sweet Home, Ind., Jan, 16.

Maurertown, Va.

I am now at home after a pleasant visit with the brethren at St. James College, Md., at which place they have erected a substantial church building. How strange it was to us, when we learned that only one member, a faithful sister, lived near the church, the rest a distance from four to six miles. Our musings were on this wise: Is this not a mistake? Do they intend this place as a missionary point? As we viewed the land over from the summit of the hill on which St. James stands, dwelling after dwelling came to sight, we inquired, who are they religiously? Invariably almost but one response came: The parents belong——do the children? No. Then our cogitations again were, does this faithful band intend to plant the gospel cannon here to fight sin and tradition? May the grace of heaven enable them enroll volunteers sufficient to hold the fort and rout the camp of sin.

Our effort ended on the night of the 9th inst, with an enrollment of 14. Ten by baptism, 3 by relation, one applicant, and many others who will come if life is spared. Thus there is formed round the building a brave band of soldiers headed by that efficient officer, Elder J. D. McFaden, with T. Fahrney and Betts as standard bearers of the cross. They cannot help but be victorious.

Upon our arrival we were informed that sister Copp was dangerously ill, and today a message has come saying, she has passed over the river of death. How we shall miss her, for her seat will be empty in our place for worship, but our loss will be her gain.

E. B. SHAVER.

California Mission.

Notwithstanding a dry year is very near at hand, (for we have had only 1¾ in. of rain up to date, Jan. 12th, against 7¼ inches at a corresponding time, last year,) yet the Master's cause has many friends.

The Solicitor of the Ripon district has made a canvass over part of the district, receiving many encouraging words and, the result is, I have $27.30 to report for the Mission Fund. There are four more solicitors to be heard from, which I hope will respond in the near future.

B. G. FREDERICK, Treas.

From the Beaver Creek Church.

As nothing has been sent from this place for some time, we thought it might not be amiss to write a few lines, asking for some minister to come and hold a revival meeting for us this winter. We have not heard the Brethren preach since last Easter. Bro. E. L. Miller preached for us on that day. Bro. Kiehl made a short visit among us last fall. He came unexpected to us and we did not have any appointment for him. We would like to have some preaching, for we think there can be a great deal of good done here. Those who do not belong to church say, why don't you Progressives have a revival meeting? If we do not have preaching here our church will go to nothing. We are willing to do all we can to support a minister; but we are too poor to pay any one a big salary. We do not ask him to come and preach for nothing.

J. M. MILLER.

Zimmerman, O.